

I was quite disturbed to discover NAB's opposition to XM Radio's locally oriented services, in particular the Instant Traffic & Weather service. I have been a loyal XM subscriber for a year and a half now, and it is a service that is not available to me for free, but that I have paid for with a monthly fee. That in and of itself entitles me to the services XM is offering, of which the Instant Traffic and Weather is one of the most useful. Perhaps NAB feels threatened by XM's service, but perhaps they should. But the thing is that the information being offered via XM's service is far superior to anything I can find elsewhere on the radio. Here I am simply speaking from experience, but anytime I've ever sought out traffic or weather information on regular FM or AM radio, I've only been inundated with advertisements and static riddle broadcasts. It's preposterous to take away our rights as XM subscribers. If NAB feels threatened, then perhaps they should work on their own services and finding ways to improve them. This is simply bullying other people around on minor issues; it's a protection of business investments and profit margins, and has absolutely nothing to do with what's best for the people. It's selfish and my disappointment with the FCC will increase dramatically should petition 04-160 pass. I urge you to not let that happen. Thank you.

Robert Svihla